

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

Yes. I haven't heard of any reasonable system that allows for copying without giving up privacy, quality, ease of use.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? It will limit my ability, as the costs will be higher, and the knowledge will be held tighter, and therefore, harder for other devices to be created, etc.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

If the media will play, unaffected on older devices, than that is fine, and I have no objections to it, because I will never buy a device that looks for it. However, I believe that will not happen, or at least not on anything more than a temporary basis, because obviously, if there isn't any reason for a consumer to buy one of the devices that look for the flag, why would anyone waste their time.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

Yes. The "neat new consumer digital equipment" can only be limited by adding requirements. There isn't any way for this to promote development.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

It can only make it more expensive.

Other Comments:

The whole thing is a big joke. I have yet to see any system that does anything similar that is not easily defeatable, and just a waste of time. This will cost the producers, artists and consumers more time, money, and waste of older devices. This should not be pursued any longer.